

**Secretariat**

31 January 2006

Information circular*

To: Members of the staff

From: The Assistant Secretary-General for Human Resources Management

Subject: **Host country travel regulations**

1. The Secretariat has received from the United States Mission to the United Nations a note verbale dated 3 January 2006, in which it informs the Secretariat of the lifting, in its entirety, of the travel notification requirement previously imposed on United Nations staff members of Vietnamese nationality.
2. The Legal Counsel of the United Nations, in his reply of 12 January 2006, welcomed this decision by the host country. However, since travel restrictions continue to remain in force with respect to staff members of certain other nationalities, the Legal Counsel reiterated the well-known position of principle concerning the restrictive and discriminatory treatment of United Nations staff solely on the basis of their nationality and urged the host country to review its position on the matter with a view to removing all remaining travel restrictions as soon as possible.
3. The existing arrangements for official travel will remain unchanged and will be made in the usual manner.
4. The text of the note verbale is set out in the annex to the present circular.

* The present circular will be in effect until further notice.



Annex

Note verbale dated 3 January 2006 from the United States Mission to the United Nations

The United States Mission to the United Nations presents its compliments to the United Nations Secretariat and has the honour to inform the latter of the following information.

United Nations staff members of Vietnamese nationality and their families no longer be required to notify the Department of State through the United States Mission of travel beyond 25 miles of Columbus Circle in New York City. The travel notification requirement has been lifted in its entirety.

The United States Mission to the United Nations avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the United Nations Secretariat the assurances of its high consideration.